F.B.I. DISCLOSES DATA ON TACTICS

Documents on Infiltration Of Radicals Made Public

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WASHINGTON, Aug. 15 (UPI) —The Federal Bureau of Investigation made public documents revealing how it used counterintelligence tactics in the nineteen-sixties to disrupt and combat the Ku Klux Klan, the Communist party and other extremist groups in America.

The documents, obtained by reporters under the Freedon of Information Act, disclose how the F.B.I. infiltrated the Klan with some 2,000 informants, issued bogus news reports about Klan officials, established factitious counter groups and sent anonymous mailings to make trouble for Klan members and other extremist organizations.

The F.B.I.'s counterintelligence program, begun in the nineteen-fifties, was aimed at disrupting and discrediting racist organizations and leftist political groups and was later used against various antiwar organizations. The late J. Edgar Hoover, then the F.B.I. director, ended the program in April, 1971, after some of its activities were exposed by the news media.

Hoover Letters Quoted

In letters dated Sept. 2, 1965, to Attorney General Nicholas De B. Katzenbach and to Marvin Watson, special assistant to President Lyndon B. Johnson, Mr. Hooever credited F.B.I. infiltration of the Klan with helping to solve the murders of civil rights activists and reducing violence in the South.

In the letters, Mr. Hoover disclosed that the head of the Klan in one Southern state was "our informant, and we have had him warn every member of his organization that he will not tolerate violence in any form.

"As a result we have been successful to date in holding klan violence in the entire state to an absolute minimum," he said.

Of the 14 different klan groups then in elistence, Mr. Hoover said, "we have penetrated every one of them through informants and currently are operating informations in top-level positions of leadership in seven of them."

Tactics in Program

Some of the tactics used by the program included the following: ¶Making anonymous mailings to Jewish members of the American Communist party detailing anti-semitic Soviet policies.

¶Creating a fictitious super-secret national intelligence committee of the klan that issued false news articles to the media reporting that the klan's national leaders had been "ousted."

Getting the local authorities to condemn a building in Chicago that had been refurbished by the American Nazi party for its headquarters.

¶Making anonymous mailings to klan members at their home or place of business of postcards wih with a cartoon showing a white-sheeted member over the caption "we know who you are."

Anonymous letters were sl also sent to major motel chain home offices revealing that the ll klan planned a convention in one of their motels and urging that it be canceled.